



File Code: 1950/2370

Date: November 29, 2007

Dear Interested Citizen:

The Forest Service, in cooperation with the State of Utah and Utah Bureau of Land Management (BLM), has prepared a draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) to evaluate the suitability of 86 eligible river segments, totaling 840 miles, on the National Forests in Utah for possible inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic River System and to initiate the process for making recommendations to Congress. Several river segments extend into Colorado and Wyoming, and these rivers are included in the study.

This Draft EIS identifies Alternative 3 as the preferred alternative. This alternative proposes that 24 river segments, totaling 212 miles be recommended for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic River System. This tentative recommendation may be adjusted in the Final EIS. The final recommendation is a preliminary administrative recommendation that will receive further review and possible modification by the Chief of the Forest Service, Secretary of Agriculture, and the President of the United States. The Congress has reserved the authority to make final decisions on designation of rivers as part of the National Wild and Scenic River System.

The DEIS can be quickly accessed on the web at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/rivers/>. There will be a series of public information meetings throughout the state of Utah during January and February 2008. A hard copy of the Draft EIS can also be found at local libraries and the six Forest Supervisors Offices throughout the state. A complete listing of scheduled meetings and locations of public libraries that have a copy of this draft are listed on the website.

The Forest Service invites written comments on the proposed alternatives and the suitability of eligible river segments for designation as wild, scenic, or recreational rivers. Please send comments by one of the following methods mail, email or fax by 02/15/2008 to:

- Mail: Utah NF Wild and Scenic River DEIS, P.O. Box 162969, Sacramento, CA 95816-2969;
- E-mail: utahnfwsdeis@fscomments.org;
- FAX: 916-456-6724.

For additional information, please check our frequently asked questions on the <http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/rivers/> website to see if the answer to your question is there. Otherwise call: Cathy Kahlow, USDA Forest Service, (435) 783-4338; Val Payne, State of Utah, (801) 537-9297 or Kenton Call, USDA Forest Service, (435) 865-3730. We appreciate your involvement in our study to determine which rivers in Utah should be selected for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic River System.

Sincerely,

National Forests of Utah Wild and Scenic Rivers Team



